

BLASTOBASIS DECOLORELLA WOLLASTON (LEP.: BLASTOBASIDAE) AT SHARNBROOK, BEDFORD. — I obtained a specimen from my kitchen window on 29th October 1978 which I tentatively identified as a male of the genus *Blastobasis*. On 8th November 1978 a second specimen (female) appeared, and I took both specimens to the British Museum (Nat. Hist.) where Mr. David Carter kindly confirmed the identification as *B. decolorella* Wollaston. On 13th November seven eggs were laid, and these hatched on 21st November. The larvae fed on dry sallow leaves until 10th December, but have not been seen to be active since that date. The female was kept in a laboratory culture dish, and when disturbed flicked about madly finally coming to rest on its back where it "played dead". — D. V. MANNING, 27 Glebe Rise, Sharnbrook, Bedford.

A LATE GHOST SWIFT: HEPIALUS HUMULI (L.) IN 1978. — At approximately 22.3 on 21st September, I found a large and perfect specimen of *H. humuli* on a street light at the end of my road. Is not this a very late date for this moth? — D. DEY, 9 Monmouth Close, Rainham Gillingham, Kent ME8 7BQ.

THE NOVEMBER MIGRATION OF MYTHIMNA UNIPUNCTA HAW. — Between 6th and 22nd November 1978 no fewer than 22 specimens of this moth were taken at m.v. in my garden. In the preceding 24 years the sum total of the species had been two. — Dr. J. R. LANGMAID, 38 Cumberland Court, Festing Road, Southsea, Hants., PO4 0NH.

HYPERA VENUSTA F. (COL.: CURCULIONIDAE) FOUND IN MID-WINTER, ETC. — On 9th January last I was much surprised to find crawling on the kitchen table-cloth a fresh and perfect specimen of this prettily-variegated little weevil (perhaps better known as *Phytonomus trilineatus* Marsh.). How it got there can only be guessed, but in all likelihood the immediate source was a bunch of parsley bought that same afternoon, which had been lying for some time, with other shopping, on the table. This, be it noted, is not a foodplant of the species but could have been serving as a hibernaculum. *H. venusta*, which feeds like many of its congeners on various low-growing Papilionaceae, tends in my experience to occur singly and seems hardly ever to be common*; nor have I ever met with it before in the Greater London area, but only a good deal farther out. Also there may be few records of its occurrence in the winter months.

In my own district these weevils are few and scarce. *H. postica* Gyll. (= *variabilis* Hbst.) is the one least seldom seen — probably the case almost everywhere — while the striking green *H. nigrirostris* F. is very sporadic. *H. punctata* F., the giant among our species, appears to be of the greatest rarity here; but it is more retiring in its habits than most of them, normally keeping low down under cover, and is probably largely nocturnal. — A. A. ALLEN, 49 Montcalm Road, Charlton, London, SE7 8QG.

*I have taken it in some plenty at the Lizard, Cornwall, with *H. plantaginis* Deg. — A.A.A.